

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 064127

10

ORIGIN EUR-25

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DRAFTED BY EUR/ SOV: JJKADILIS: AB

4/6/73 : 23350

APPROVED BY EUR: WSTOESSEL

EUR/ SOV: HSOKUN

EUR/ SOV: JDSCANLAN

EUR: JAARMITAGE

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R 062057 Z APR 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO USMISSION USUN NY

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, UR US

SUBJECT: SOVIET DEMARCHE REGARDING DEMONSTRATIONS IN
FRONT OF THEIR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

1. WHILE CALLING ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL ON ANOTHER MATTER ON APRIL 5, MINISTER COUNSELOR VORONTSOV TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAY THAT THE SOVIET EMBASSY IS PREPARING A NOTE REGARDING DEMONSTRATIONS WHICH WILL BE DELIVERED LATER. VORONTSOV PROCEEDED TO MAKE A LENGTHY COMPLAINT ABOUT WHAT HE TERMED THE UNHEALTHY SITUATION AROUND THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. HE ASSERTED THAT LOCAL AUTHORITIES ARE VIOLATING US LAW WHEN THEY PERMIT DEMONSTRATIONS OF ANY KIND TO TAKE PLACE ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF 16 TH STREET FROM THE EMBASSY, A DISTANCE OF ONLY FIFTY FEET. VORONTSOV MADE THE POINT A NUMBER OF TIMES THAT THE LAW BANNING DEMONSTRATIONS TO BEYOND 500 FEET OF THE EMBASSY IS BEING VIOLATED ON A REGULAR BASIS. HE STATED THAT US AUTHORITIES MUST TAKE ACTION TO STOP ALL DEMONSTRATIONS, BE THEY SILENT, WITH PLACARDS OR WITHOUT.

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WITHOUT MENTIONING HIM BY NAME, VORONTSOV REFERRED TO THE RECENT HUNGER STRIKE BY YAMPOLSKY. MR. STOESEL RESPONDED THAT WE WOULD, OF COURSE, STUDY THE SOVIET NOTE WHEN WE RECEIVE IT. HE SAID THAT THIS WAS NOT A NEW PROBLEM, AND THAT WE WOULD LOOK INTO THE MATTER OF ANY VIOLATION.

2. THE NOTE REFERRED TO BY VORONTSOV WAS DELIVERED TO THE DEPARTMENT WITHIN A FEW MINUTES OF HIS DEPARTURE. RELATING THE VARIOUS ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF THE 500- FOOT LAW WHICH ACCOMPANIED YAMPOLSKY' S HUNGER STRIKE, THE NOTE WAS COUCHED IN RELATIVELY MILD LANGUAGE, BY SOVIET STANDARDS, AND CALLED UPON THE DEPARTMENT TO TAKE MEASURES TO PREVENT SUCH INCIDENTS IN THE FUTURE, POINTING OUT THAT IT IS IN OUR MUTUAL INTEREST TO AVOID SUCH COMPLICATIONS IN SOVIET- AMERICAN RELATIONS.

3. FULL TEXT FOLLOWS SEPTEL. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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